TITLE

PEG-IFN BETA-1A PRE-FILLED PEN (PLEGRIDY®) IMPROVES SATISFACTION IN PATIENTS WITH RELAPSING-REMITTING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS WHO WERE DISSATISFIED WITH OTHER SUBCUTANEOUS INTERFERONS (PLATINUM STUDY)

SHORT TITLE

PLEGRIDY SATISFACTION IN RRMS PATIENTS

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Subcutaneous (SC) interferons beta (IFN-beta) are effective therapies for the treatment of relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS). Factors such as dosing schedule, needle intolerance and side effects may impact patient satisfaction with treatment. Improvement of patient satisfaction may increase the adherence to treatment and the patient quality of life. This study was aimed at evaluating the impact of switching to Peg-IFN beta-1a in patients with RRMS unsatisfied with other SC interferons. **METHODS:** The multicentre, open-label, phase IV PLATINUM study, was conducted in 32 Italian centres. The primary endpoint was changes from baseline in the score of convenience satisfaction domain of TSQM-9 questionnaire at 12 weeks. The secondary end points were patients' global satisfaction, short term adherence to treatment, satisfaction with the injection system, effect on fatigue, disease activity and patient inability score. **RESULTS:** 193 patients were enrolled and 166 (86%) completed the study, receiving Peg-IFN beta-1a for 24 weeks. Patients switching to Peg-IFN beta-1a from other SC interferons reported a significant improvement ($p<0.001$) of Convenience Score and all other scores of TSQM-9 questionnaire at 12 and 24 weeks ($p< 0.001$). Peg INF beta-1a attained very high adherence to the treatment (93.8% at 24 weeks) with a stable annualized relapse rate (ARR). At 24 weeks, 94% of participants were relapse free. Adverse events (AE), recorded on 82 patients (42%), were mild or moderate. The most common AE was flu-like syndrome (29.2%). **CONCLUSIONS:** Patients switching from SC IFN beta therapy to Peg IFN beta-1a showed high treatment satisfaction with a positive safety profile, comparable with that of the other currently approved first-line injectable SC interferons. This study suggests that Peg INF beta-1a might represent a treatment choice to improve adherence in RRMS patients unsatisfied with other SC interferons.
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Disclosures

DC is an Advisory Board member of Bayer Schering, Biogen, Merck-Serono, Teva and received honoraria for speaking or consultation fees from Almirall, Bayer Schering, Biogen, Genzyme, GW Pharmaceuticals, Merck Serono, Novartis, Sanofi-Aventis, Teva. He is also principal investigator in clinical trials for Bayer Schering, Biogen, Novartis, Merck Serono, Sanofi-Aventis, Teva.

FB and RF have received honoraria for speaking or consultation fees from Almirall, Merck, Novartis, Sanofi, Teva and Biogen and payments for advisory board membership from Teva, Biogen, Merck and Novartis.

LMEG has received funding for travel to attend scientific events or speaker honoraria from Merck Serono, Biogen Idec, Sanofi-Aventis, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Roche, Novartis and Bayer Schering Pharma; and has received institutional research support from Biogen Idec and Serono Foundation.

RT has served on advisory boards and/or received honoraria for speaking or consultation fees from Biogen Idec, Merck-Serono, Novartis, Roche, Sanofi-Genzyme and Teva. Principal investigator in clinical trials for Biogen, Merck Serono, Novartis, Roche, Sanofi Genzyme, and Teva.

FC received funding to attend scientific events or speaker honoraria from Novartis, Biogen, Merck, Mylan e Sanofi Genzyme.

PC acted as an Advisory Board member of Biogen and Novartis; received funding for traveling from Biogen, Merck, Teva, Novartis; received honoraria for speaking or writing from Biogen and Novartis. He received support for research project by Novartis and Merck and is involved as principal investigator or co-investigator in clinical trials for Teva, Novartis, Biogen and Merck.

SC has participated in advisory boards from Teva, Bayer and Merck.

MT served on scientific advisory boards for Biogen, Merck-Serono, Sanofi-Genzyme, Novartis and Roche; has received speaker honoraria from Biogen, Sanofi-Genzyme, Merck Serono, Roche, Novartis and Teva; and has received research grants for her institution from Biogen, Merck Serono, Novartis and Roche.

VZ and EP are employees of Biogen Italia.